

SENATE BILL 3210
By Springer

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-35-302, relative to agencies, programs, or associations established for the purpose of supervising probationers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-35-302, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(g)(1) Before being allowed to supervise misdemeanor probationers as provided in subsection (f), a private entity shall first enter into a contract with the county or municipal chief executive, whichever is applicable, in whose jurisdiction such private entity proposes to provide probation supervisory services.

(2) The following minimum education standards shall be required for certain employees of a private entity established for the purpose of supervising misdemeanor probationers:

(A) The chief executive officer of a private entity offering probation supervision shall have at least four (4) years of administrative experience and shall have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university in any of the following fields: criminal justice, administration, social work, or the behavioral sciences.

(B) An employee responsible for providing probation supervision and employed by a private entity shall have had at least four (4) years of experience in a criminal justice or social services agency providing counseling services or shall have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university in any of the

following fields: criminal justice, administration, social work, or the behavioral sciences.

(3) A private entity seeking to provide misdemeanor probation supervisory services shall, as a condition of entering into a contract, obtain a policy of general liability insurance in a sufficient amount to cover any claims or damages arising from the negligence or misconduct of officials or employees of such entity which may arise in the course of their duties. Such policy shall provide coverage in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence.

(4) A contract between a local governmental entity and a private entity providing misdemeanor probation supervisory services shall be reviewed at least once annually by an official or agency of the contracting local governmental entity.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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